

period of time sufficient only to join a swarm of males for the purpose of mating. Chandler (1976) has noted that females are often found *in copula*, which would tend to support this theory.

O. nigra appears to be widespread in Norfolk, and I can supply the following recent records for the county (those collected by J. W. Ismay are in Norwich Castle Museum): Earlham Woods (TG 1807), 11.v.1975, 1 ♂, J.W.I.; Felbrigg Woods (TG 1840), 24.x.1975, 1 ♂, J.W.I.; Dersingham Fen (TF 6729), 31.x.1975, 1 ♂, J.W.I.; Swanton Novers (TG 0131), 2.xi.1975, 1 ♂, J.W.I.; Upton Broad (TG 3813), 4.xi.1975, 1 ♂, J.W.I.; Earlham Woods (TG 1807), 28.iv.1976, 5 ♂, 1 ♀, I.F.G.M.; Norman's Burrow Wood (TF 8923), 29.iv.1976, 2 ♀, J.W.I.; Upton Broad (TG 3913), 13.vi.1976, 1 ♂, J.W.I.; Easton (TG 1210), 23-30.vi.1976, 1 ♀, I.F.G.M.

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References

- Chandler, P. J. 1972. The flat-footed flies (Diptera, Aschiza-Platyppezidae) known to occur in Kent, with a key to the genera and species so far recorded from the British Isles. *Trans. Kent Field Club*, 5: 15-44.
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STRYMONIDIA W-ALBUM KNOCH IN HAMPSHIRE. — In Goater's *The Butterflies and Moths of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight* (1974, p. 224) it is stated of *Strymonidia w-album*: "Rare, local and elusive in Hampshire". It may be of interest to record therefore, that on three small twigs (ca. 12 in. long) cut at random from a wych elm near Kings Somborne in mid-February, were 19 ova of this butterfly. I cut the twigs intending to bring on the half-opened flower buds indoors in order to feed *w-album* larvae on the point of hatching from Dorset ova. The tree in question was the first of its kind located during an afternoon's drive and it was only after I returned home and rather casually examined the twigs that I realised my find. A return visit a week later confirmed excellent numbers of eggs on other branches of the same tree and also on another about 200 yards away. A newly hatched larva was noted at the same time. The first tree, unfortunately, is doomed as one branch is affected with Dutch elm disease which is rampant in the area. The other tree, as yet, seems healthy. — Dr. C. J. LUCKENS, 52 Thorold Road, Bitterne Park, Southampton, SO2 4JG.